



HF Happenings

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You can now download your copy of HF Happenings from www.sarl.org.za/hf_happenings.asp.

South African Radio League Top Band QSO Party

The South African Radio League Top Band QSO Party is a fun activity to promote contacts on 160 metres between radio amateurs in Southern African countries and to encourage radio amateurs to apply for the League's Top Band Award. The QSO Party is open to all licensed amateurs that have access to the 160 metre band.

The QSO Party runs from 00:01 UTC on Thursday 23 June 2016 to 23:59 UTC on Monday 27 June 2016 with CW activity between 1 810 and 1 838 kHz and phone activity between 1 840 and 2 000 kHz. The exchange is a RS or RST report and your provincial or country abbreviation. Each station can be worked once per mode i.e. once on Phone and again with CW.

Each QSO will count three (3) points and each South African call area and each DXCC country worked will be awarded with five (5) additional bonus points. Logs, in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format and labelled "your call sign Top Band," must be submitted by 4 July 2016 by e-mail to contest@sarl.org.za.

World Wide Flora and Fauna in Amateur Radio

The WWFF programme wants to draw attention to the importance of protecting nature, flora and fauna. In this spirit, amateur radio operators set up, operate their radio stations from designated nature parks and protected nature areas - generating attention for these areas whilst giving the amateur radio community an interesting activity to contact. WWFF is an international and non-commercial program run by the coordinators of a large number of national Flora and Fauna programmes.



Make nature your shack!

How do I activate a park?

The participating national Flora and Fauna programmes use roughly the same rules. For countries without a national programme, the WWFF committee has drafted a set of standard rules. However, the national rules have priority over these rules - so always check the national rules before you activate a WWFF reference. The national rules can be found on the web pages of the national programmes. In essence, it all boils down to

You and all the equipment you use need to be within the perimeters of the park.

You can only work from one reference at a time - so if you are in a park that is a sub-region of a larger park you can only use the reference of the sub-region

The WWFF rules further specify the following (some national programs use these rules, some do not and the numbers differ - so always check local rules):

You must make a minimum number of QSOs (WWFF: 44) for your activity to count towards an activator award you must activate the park for at least a certain amount of time (WWFF: 2 hours) for your activity to count towards an activator award

You cannot activate another park within a certain amount of time (WWFF: 2 hours) after the beginning of your previous activity and you cannot activate more than a maximum number of parks (WWFF: 2) on one day (assuming you use one call sign)



South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925



How do people know I am in a WWFF location? If you know beforehand that you are going to activate a park at a certain date and time then let the national coordinator of the programme know or post your activity on the World Wide Flora and Fauna forum: <http://forum.wwff.co>. It helps to use the frequencies that are known as the Flora and Fauna frequencies - Phone: 3,744, 7,144, 14,244, 18,144, 21,244, 24,944, 28,444 and CW: 3,544, 7,024, 10,124, 14,044, 18,084, 21,044, 24,894, 28,044.

When CQing it is of course important to mention the park reference. When people pick up your signal, you are likely to be spotted on a cluster. That really helps getting attention to your activity.

How do I confirm an activity / send in a log? You should send your log in ADIF format to the national coordinator of the country where you activated the nature park. Make sure you add photographic proof of your activity using pictures of a GPS device (car navigation for example), park signs and your set-up. The national coordinator will make sure that your log is validated and added to the World Wide Flora and Fauna log database. If you activated a park in a DXCC that is not covered by the WWFF National Programmes, then you can send your log to logs@wff-dl.de

Ham Radio 2016, Friedrichshafen, takes place between 24 and 26 June

Europe's premier Amateur Radio gathering, Ham Radio 2016 <http://www.hamradio-friedrichshafen.de/>, a 3-day event in Friedrichshafen, Germany, on the shores of Lake Constance, gets under way on Friday 24 June. The annual show attracts upward of 15 000 visitors from around the globe. The co-sponsoring Deutscher Amateur Radio Club (DARC <http://www.darc.de/>) has set a theme of "Amateur Radio - on land, on water and in the air" for this summer's event. Some 200 exhibitors from 34 countries will be on hand for this 41st "Friedrichshafen."



The indoor flea market at Friedrichshafen always draws a crowd.

"There are as many different ways to operate Amateur Radio as there are places from which you can send radio transmissions: On land, on water and in the air," DARC spokesperson Stephanie Heine, DO7PR, said.

This year's program includes a "foxhunt" in the woods near the fairgrounds, a youth camp <http://www.hamcamp.de/> and the Ham Rally, where the next generation of radio amateurs can explore the world of technology and wireless. It is open to young people between the ages of 8 and 18.

A Contest University (CTU <http://www.darc.de/der-club/referate/dx/contest/ctu/>) sponsored by the DARC will take place for radiosport beginners on Friday 24 June and experienced contesters on Saturday 25 June, with sessions aimed at how to improve contesting performance.

The annual informal Summits on the Air (SOTA) meeting will start at 12:00 on Saturday 25 June at the QSL Wall and then move to one of the restaurants for lunch.

IARU Region 1 <http://iaru-r1.org/> will host a meeting of those interested in emergency communication on Friday 24 June. The session will include an open forum for national coordinators to report on activities in their respective countries. Also up for discussion will be GlobalSet and changes to the IARU emergency message procedure. Region 1 will also host the International Meeting on Friday 24 June for all Member Societies attending Ham Radio.

International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA, will head the IARU team to Friedrichshafen, along with IARU Vice President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, and IARU Secretary Rod Stafford, W6ROD.

Next year's big show in Friedrichshafen, Ham Radio 2017, will take place from 14 to 16 July 2017, owing to a scheduling conflict. The organizers of the event, the DARC and Messe Friedrichshafen, have announced that because the 2017 Outdoor Show at Messe Friedrichshafen had to be postponed until the traditional Ham Radio weekend in late June 2017, Ham Radio 2017 was rescheduled for the following month. The weekend coincides with the Seehasenfest (Lumpfish Festival) on Lake Constance.

INDEXA Newsletter

The Spring 2016 Special Issue of the International DX Association's (INDEXA) Newsletter is now available for download at www.indexa.org/newsletters.html. This issue contains the story of VK9WA, Willis Island, November 2015 and a report by Roger Western, G3SXW, on some recent efforts in Europe to track down a source of deliberate QRM (DQRM).

International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend

The oldest and original International Amateur Radio Lighthouse Weekend event, the next event is 20 and 21 August 2016. You will find all the information at www.illw.net. The event is NOT a contest. There are no prizes, certificates or other enticements to participate and therefore, participation is free. Each station's operators decide how they will operate their station regards modes and bands. Participants are not committed to being on the air during the entire period - only as much as they can.

There are no restrictions on aerials or power. We wish operators to enjoy themselves and have fun whilst making contact with as many amateur radio stations as possible. We request that stations take time to work other lighthouses or lightships as well as the slow operator, or the newly licensed or QRP stations.

At present, the following South African Lighthouses have entered for the 2016 event.

ZS1BAK, Cape Agulhas, ZA0011, QSL via the Bureau
 ZS1CT, Green Point, Cape Town, ZA0006, QSL via LoTW or the Bureau
 ZS1OAR, Danger Point, ZA0005, QSL via PO Box 7, Swellendam 6740
 ZS5D, Cooper Lighthouse Bluff, ZA0004, QSL via ZS5KL

DXCC News

The EP2A, April 2016 DXpedition has been approved for award credit.

June

20 Winter Solstice
 21 closing date for July Radio ZS articles
 23 to 27 - SARL Top Band QSO Party
 24 to 26 - Ham Radio 2016, Friedrichshafen, Germany
 30 - End of SARL Membership year

July

1 - Start of SARL Membership year; Bloemfontein ARC 36th birthday
 1 to 10 - Knysna Oyster Festival
 3 - ZS5 Sprint
 6 - Eid-UL-Fitr
 8 to 10 - Dullstroom Winter Festival
 9 and 10 - IARU HF Championships
 10 - SARL Youth Net
 14 to 17 - Coffee and Chocolate Expo, Monte Casino
 16 - Winter QRP Sprint
 16 and 17 - Franschoek Bastille Festival
 16 to 23 - Region 1 YOTA Summer Camp in Austria
 18 - Schools open
 24 - ZS2 Sprint
 25 - Closing date for articles for the August Radio ZS
 30 - Special General Meeting at the NARC
 30 - SA Fly-fishing and Flying Expo, Somerset West
 30 and 31 - Islands on the Air Contest

African DX

Africa DX Net - every Saturday afternoon from 14:00 UTC on 14,260 MHz hosted by Mike, V51MA, Leon, A25SL, and Tinus, ZS6MHK.

Djibouti, J2. Jean-Philippe, F1TMY, will be active as J28PJ from Djibouti starting 1 September for the next 3 to 5 years. Activity will be on the HF bands and 6 meters. QSL via F1TMY.

Burkina Faso, XT. Harald, DF2WO, will once again be active as XT2AW from Ouagadougou sometime in or between October and November. Activity will be holiday style on 40 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and the digital modes. He states that he works mostly on the digital modes (PSK31, JT65 and RTTY) and slow CW. Equipment is a FT-450D into a homemade HEX Beam and a dipole for 40 metres. QSL via M00XO, direct or OQRS <http://www.m0oxo.com/oqrs/>.

African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz

SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz



Cape Verde, D4. Harald, DF2WO, is once again active as D44TWO from Praia, Santiago Island (AF-005) until 13 July. Activity is holiday style on 40 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and the digital modes. He states that he works mostly on the digital modes (PSK31, JT65 and RTTY) and slow CW. Equipment is a FT-450D into a homemade HEX Beam and a dipole for 40 metres. QSL via M00XO (OQRS available).



Comoros, D6. Pavel, OK1FPS, David, OK6DJ, Pavel, OK1GK, Ruda, OK2ZA, and Petr, OK1BOA will be active as D66D from Comoro Islands (AF-007) between mid-September and begin-October (18 to 30 September). Activity will be on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. Antenna/radio setup is 3 x Elecraft K3, 2 x PA, Antennas 2 x Spiderbeam including WARC, 1 x vertical 40/30 m, 1 vertical 160/80 m and a special RX antenna for low bands. QSL via OK6DJ, LoTW or eQSL. For more details and update, see http://www.cdpx.cz/?page_id=512

Senegal, 6V (IOTA Op). A team of Italian operators will be active as 6V1IS from Ngor and Gorée Islands (AF-045), Senegal, between 6 and 16 November. This is a Humanitarian DXpedition. Activity will be on various HF bands and modes. Operators and team members mentioned are Leopoldo, I8LWL (Organiser), Alfredo, IK7JWX (Team leader, QSL Manager), Ampelia, IS0AGY, Christian, IS0BWM, Loredana, IS0FFR, Patrick, IS0FQK, Simon, IZ7ATN, Vincenzo, IZ8FRH, Enzo, IZ8LFI and Michele, IW7EGQ. Log will be available on ClubLog. The operation does have a Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1707060236221730>

IOTA News: Deletion of Kingman Reef

"As forecast as a strong likelihood in the 2016 IOTA Directory (page 50), IOTA Management has decided to delete Kingman Reef (OC-096) from the IOTA list, effective 29 March 2016. Kingman Reef lost its current DXCC status on that date, as it no longer satisfied the criteria under which it was added.

IOTA Rule E.5.5 states that an island that qualifies for separate listing only because it is a DXCC entity will have a start and/or deletion date for credit in line with DXCC decisions and that in the event of an island DXCC entity being deleted, the IOTA group number will normally be archived and score credits moved on request to the IOTA group to which the island or islands are transferred. Kingman Reef is just such an island, and the transfer in this case is to Palmyra Atoll (OC-085).

Before the end of June, credits for OC-096 will be deleted from all records. In accordance with the rule, participants may claim credit with Kingman Reef QSOs for OC-085 if they need credit there - there are no date restrictions. To save questions, IOTA does not maintain a database of credits with deleted/archived IOTAs."

Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 20 to 27 June 2016

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

01:00 - 03:00 UTC 20 June

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once; Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 26 June 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://qrptest.com/pigrun/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://qrptest.com/pigrun/>

SKCC Sprint

00:00 - 02:00 UTC 22 June

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and SKCC no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO; Bonus Points:

5 points per Centurion member QSO per

band; 10 points per Tribune member QSO

per band; 25 points per QSO with SKCC club call (K9SKC) per band

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 24 June 2016

E-mail log summary to: (none)

Post log summary at:

http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekday_sprint/submit-display.php

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekday_sprint/

Phone Fray

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 22 June

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO;

non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including

KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE prov-

ince/territory once per band; Each North

American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 24 June 2016
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
<http://www.3830scores.com>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contes_t_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test
13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 22 June and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 23 June
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;
QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each call once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 25 June 2016
Post log summary at:
<http://www.3830scores.com>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>

NAQCC CW Sprint
00:30 - 02:30 UTC 23 June
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: (none)
Max power: 999 mW
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC no or power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member
Multipliers: Each state, province or country once; Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1,5 x if bug, 1 x if other

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 26 June 2016
Upload log at:
<http://naqcc.info/sprintlog.html>
Mail logs to: John Shannon, K3WWP, 478 E. High St., Kittanning, PA 16201, USA
Find rules at:
<http://naqcc.info/sprint201606mw.html>

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, SSB
19:00 - 20:30 UTC 23 June
Mode: SSB
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: (none)
Exchange: RS and serial no
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 30 June 2016
Upload log at: <http://www.vhfcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2016/r80mcc.shtml>

NCCC RTTY Sprint
01:45 - 02:15 UTC 24 June
Mode: RTTY
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 26 June 2016
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
<http://www.3830scores.com/>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html>

NCCC Sprint
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 24 June
Mode: CW
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 26 June 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once; Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1,5 x if bug, 1 x if other

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 18 June 2016

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once; Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 26 June 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://qrpccontest.com/pigrun/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://qrpccontest.com/pigrun/>

Battle of Carabobo International Contest

00:00 UTC 25 June to 24:00 UTC 26 June

Mode: CW, Phone

Bands: 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - low or high

Single Op Single Band - low or high

Max power: HP: 1 000 watts; LP: 100 watts

Exchange: YV: RS(T) and state; Non-YV: RS(T) and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO between YV stations; 5 points per QSO between DX and YV stations; 4 points per QSO between DX stations on different continents; 3 points per QSO between DX stations on same continent; 2 points per QSO between DX stations in same country

Multipliers: Each YV state

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 31 July 2016

E-mail logs to: contestbatalladecara-bobo@gmail.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://radioclubvalenciaac.org.ve/index.php/concurso-internacional-batalla-de-carabobo/52-concurso-internacional-batalla-de-carabobo-2017>

UFT QRP Contest

06:00 UTC-09:00 UTC 25 June and 14:00

UTC-17:00 UTC 25 June

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP or high

Max power: HP: >5 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: RST and QRP/QRO and UFT member no; non-member: RST and QRP/QRO and "NM"

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: Each UFT member once per band; Each QSO with F8UFT once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 25 July 2016

E-mail logs to: f6cel@orange.fr

Mail logs to: Ghislain Barbasson, 5, rue de l'Ecluse, F-02190 Pignancourt, France

Find rules at:

<http://www.uft.net/reglement/eng.pdf>

His Majesty the King of Spain SSB Contest

12:00 UTC 25 June to 12:00 UTC 26 June

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: EA: RS and province; non-EA: RS and serial no

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: Each EA province once per band; Each EADX100 entity once per band; Each special (EA0) station once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 11 July 2016

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://concursos.ure.es/en/logs/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: [http://concursos.ure.es/en/s-](http://concursos.ure.es/en/s-m-el-rey-de-espana-ssb/bases/)

[m-el-rey-de-espana-ssb/bases/](http://concursos.ure.es/en/s-m-el-rey-de-espana-ssb/bases/)

Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest

12:00 UTC 25 June to 12:00 UTC 26 June

Mode: RTTY, PSK63

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: SOAB - low or high; SOSB - low or high; MOMB

Max power: HP: >100 W; LP: 100 W

Exchange: UR: RST and 2-letter Oblast; non-

UR: RST and QSO no

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: Each DXCC country once per band per mode; Each oblast once per band per mode

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 26 July 2016

E-mail logs to: urldigi@izmail-dx.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.izmail-dx.com/>

ARRL Field Day

1800Z 25 June to 2100Z 26 June

Mode: All

Bands: All, except 30, 17, 12 m

Classes: A: Club/non-club portable; B:

One/two person portable; C: Mobile; D:

Home; E: Home-emergency power; F: EOC

Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts;

QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: W/VE: Number of transmitters (see rules), operating class and ARRL/RAC

section; DX: Number of transmitters (see rules), operating class and "DX"

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW/digital QSO

Bonus Points: see rules

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points and bonus points

Submit logs by: 20:59 UTC 26 July 2016

Post log summary at:

<http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/fielddayentry.php>

Mail logs to: Field Day Entries, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

Next Week's Contests

Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 29 June

CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 29 June and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 30 June

RAC Canada Day Contest, 00:00 - 23:59 UTC 1 July

NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 1 July

NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 1 July

FISTS Summer Slow Speed Sprint, 00:00 - 04:00 UTC 2 July

Venezuelan Independence Day Contest, 00:00 UTC 2 July to 23:59 UTC 3 July

DL-DX RTTY Contest, 11:00 UTC 2 July to 10:59 UTC 3 July

Marconi Memorial HF Contest, 14:00 UTC 2 July to 14:00 UTC 3 July

Original QRP Contest, 15:00 UTC 2 July to 15:00 UTC 3 July

PODXS 070 Club 40 m Firecracker Sprint, 20:00 UTC 2 July to 20:00 UTC 3 July

DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest, 11:00 - 17:00 UTC 3 July

10-10 Int. Spirit of 76 QSO Party, 00:01 UTC 4 July to 24:00 UTC 10 July

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, CW, 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 4 July

ARS Spartan Sprint, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 5 July

VHF Happenings

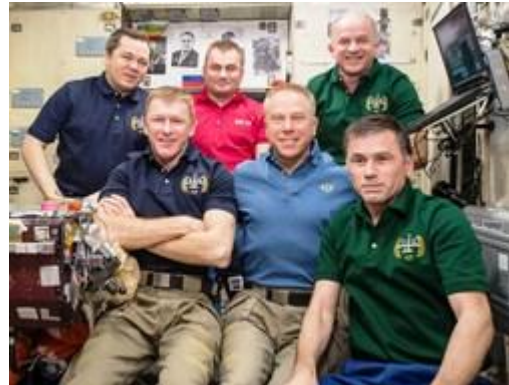
Three Radio Amateurs on the ISS Head Home on June 18

Three radio amateurs on board the International Space Station (ISS <http://www.nasa.gov/station>) departed the orbiting outpost at the end of the week. Expedition 47 Commander Tim Kopra, KE5UDN; Flight Engineer Tim Peake, KG5BVI/GB1SS, and Yuri Malenchenko, RK3DUP, will undock from the space station early on Saturday morning 18 June in a *Soyuz TMA-19M* spacecraft commanded by Malenchenko, after having spent 186 days in space since their December launch. NASA Television will provide coverage starting on 17 June.

When the *Soyuz* undocks, ISS Expedition 48 will begin under the command of Jeff Williams, KD5TVQ. Williams and crewmates Oleg Skripochka, RN3FU, and Alexey Ovchinin will operate the station for 3 weeks until the arrival of the next crew increment. NASA astronaut Kate Rubins, KG5FYJ; Russian cosmonaut Anatoly Ivanishin and Takuya Onishi, KF5LKS, of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency are scheduled to launch on 6 July from Baikonur, Kazakhstan.

During their stay, Kopra and Peake scored some milestones for the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS <http://www.ariss.org/>) programme. On 10 March, Kopra conducted the 1 000th ARISS school group contact with students in North Dakota. The first contact occurred in December of 2000. Peake made use of Amateur Radio in his "Principia Mission" outreach <https://principia.org.uk/>, which aimed to directly engage students with communication technologies, inspiring them to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields.

During his stay in space, Peake hosted 10 ARISS school group contacts, including the first to take advantage of the HamTV digital Amateur Radio television (DATV) system when he spoke with students in England on 11 February. The DATV system in the *Columbus* module of the ISS allowed students at Royal Masonic School, home of GB1RSM, to see as well as to listen, as Peake, operating as GB1SS, answered their questions about life in space.



Seated in front, L-R: ESA (European Space Agency) astronaut Timothy Peake, KG5BVI; NASA astronaut Timothy Kopra, KE5UDN, and Roscosmos cosmonaut Yuri Malenchenko, RK3DUP, set to depart the International Space Station and return to Earth on 18 June. Behind them (L-R) are Oleg Skripochka, RN3FU, Alexey Ovchinin, both of Roscosmos, and Jeff Williams, KD5TVQ. [NASA photo]

AMSAT Argentina balloon flight with crossband repeater

AMSAT Argentina plans a high altitude balloon launch carrying a cross-band repeater from Las Heras in the Mendoza province on 9 July 2016. Launch is currently planned for 10:00 local time, depending on weather conditions. AMSAT Argentina will also present news of their satellite plans.

NEA-1 Repeater Information

Uplink: 145,725 MHz FM (123.0 Hz CTCSS)

Downlink: 436,725 MHz FM

APRS information will be relayed via <http://aprs.fi/?call=lu7aa-1> BALLOON NEA - 1

This Week's Contests

Next Week's Contests

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